

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 7, 8 and 9 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An image processing method comprising:  
a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;  
a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table, the gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit to create a new database; and  
a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,  
wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head identification information of a head used in said output unit, and  
wherein the creation of the new database is executed when the output unit is exchanged.

2. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein said management file is held in a file different from a file for holding said new database.

3. (Previously presented) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein said output unit uses a plurality of heads, the database file is managed on the basis of a combination of the head identification information of said heads.

4. (Previously presented) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein the number of databases created by the calibration is controlled on the basis of said management file, and, when the number of created databases becomes greater than a predetermined value, an oldest database in other already created databases is deleted.

5. (Previously presented) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein upon uninstallation of a printer driver, all of the created database file and the management files are deleted.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
holding means for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;  
forming means for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table, the gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit to create a new database; and

correction processing means for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head discriminating information of a head used in said output unit, and

wherein the creation of the new database is executed when the output unit is exchanged.

8. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores therein a program for executing an image processing method comprising:

a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;

a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table, the gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit to create a new database; and

a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head identification information of a head used in said output portion, and

wherein the creation of the new database is executed when the output unit is exchanged.

9. (Currently amended) An image processing method comprising:

a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;

a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit to create a new database; and

a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file on the basis of head identification information of heads used in said output unit, and

wherein the creation of the new database is executed when the output unit is exchanged.